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Soldiers plead guilty to charges of abuse

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Release A051219d

Soldiers plead guilty to charges of abuse

BAGHDAD, Iraq – Five U.S. Soldiers from the 75th Ranger Regiment pleaded guilty to violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice during courts-martial completed Dec. 8th, 12th and 13th related to charges of detainee abuse.

The charges, referred to courts-martial in December, stem from results of an investigation into allegations of abuse that took place in Iraq on Sept. 7. One Soldier was referred to a Summary Court-Martial; the remaining four were referred to Special Courts-martial, empowered to judge a Bad Conduct Discharge.

The results of the courts-martial are as follows:

- All five Soldiers were charged with and pleaded guilty to violation of UCMJ Article 92, Dereliction in the Performance of Duties.

- Four of the five Soldiers were charged with and pleaded guilty to violation of UCMJ Article 128 Assault Consummated by a Battery.

-Two Soldiers were charged with and pleaded guilty to violation of UCMJ Article 93, Maltreatment.

Punishments ranged from 30-day to six-month confinements and reduction in rank and two of the Soldiers will receive a Bad Conduct Discharge from the Army upon completion of their confinement, pending final action by the convening authority.

All five Soldiers charged were enlisted.

Multi-national Force-Iraq takes all allegations of abuse very seriously. Each allegation is thoroughly investigated and appropriate actions are taken based on the results.

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